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Bollington Urban District.

REPORT

—ON THE—

Health of Bollington

FOR THE YEAR 1937,

—BY—

JOHN W. CHADWICK,

M.R.C.S. (Eng) ; L.R.C.P. (Lond.) ;

D.P.H. (Manchester) ;

Certificates Factory and School Hygiene.

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

BOLLINGTON.

E CHADWICK PRINTER & STATIONER,

18, HIGH STREET.

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Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health for 1937.

*To the Chairman and Members of the
Bollington Urban District Council.*

MR CHAIRMAN AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to submit to you, for your consideration, my Annual Report on the Health and Sanitary Administration of the District for the past year.

The Urban District of Bollington, as you know comprises some 1291 acres, and is situate in a valley, and on its adjacent hill sides is the westerly edge of the East Cheshire range of hills.

It is distant about $3\frac{1}{2}$ miles in a North Easterly direction from the Borough of Macclesfield. It is also some 11 miles from the Town of Stockport and 17 miles from the City of Manchester.

The valley forms a natural cul-de-sac a little off the Manchester and Macclesfield main road.

The district is a bracing and healthy one, and has excellent sites for residential property on its hill sides.

During 1937 there seems to have been a greater desire to build houses by private enterprise, and in several parts of the district land is being opened up for building purposes, which certainly is very ideally situated from a health and beauty standpoint.

The character of the soil and sub-soil varies greatly. Speaking generally it is sandstone with coal measures.

The staple industry of the place is the Cotton Trade. The village has three mills engaged in Fine Cotton Spinning, and one in Calico Printing. Two Paper Staining Firms and Wireless Bulb Manufactory have works in the village, while just outside the boundaries a Card Factory was opened in 1926. All these works find indoor employment for a large number of the inhabitants.

Outdoor employment is to be had in the Stone Quarries which abound in the neighbourhood, and also at the Fire Clay Works and Coal Pits situate in Pott Shrigley, a little over two miles away.

These different occupations which are followed by the inhabitants would appear to be of a healthy character. Mill life in a country district like this is devoid of a great many of the more harmful influences associated with the same life in the larger cities and towns.

The amount of Poor Law Relief distributed in the district for the year 1937 was £1026 17 6 as against £800 18 6 for 1936 and £579 14 6 for 1935.

Bollington like every other town in the country has been very badly hit by unemployment, especially in the Cotton Trade, but has been fortunate in the respect that there does not seem to have been the very urgent distress other towns have experienced. During 1937 there seems to have been a great improvement in both the Cotton and other industries, and there has been a consequent relief in the unemployment, which I sincerely hope may continue permanently.

Ample opportunities are provided in the village for Recreation. There is a fine Recreation Ground suitably equipped with Bowling Green, Cricket and Football Pitches, Tennis Courts, &c.

Hospital and Gratuitous Medical Relief are well provided for at the General Infirmary, Macclesfield, and advantage of this is taken chiefly by cases requiring operations and other institutional treatment.

This Institution is now provided with a first-class X-Ray installation and an artificial sunlight plant, of which every opportunity is taken by patients from the village where such treatment is advisable.

The number of cases treated by the Macclesfield Infirmary from Bollington and Pott Shrigley during 1937 was 115 in-patients.

I should like to record my appreciation of the very great kindness of the Committee and Medical and Nursing Staff at the Institution, and of their readiness to admit the cases sent to them from this district. The Bollington and Pott Shrigley Infirmary Committee are to be congratulated on their efforts to support this Institution, and I think a large number of people are finding the benefit of being regular contributors, entitling them to treatment when occasion arises.

I now pass on to Statistical Work in the order that the Ministry of Health desire.

1.—GENERAL STATISTICS.

Area (Acres) 1442.

Population 1937, estimated 5081.

Number of Inhabited Houses, 1936, 1611.

Rateable Value, 1937, £22,274.

Estimated net product of a penny rate, £84.

2. EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR.

BIRTHS.					Males.	Females.	Total.
Legitimate	...	...	...	...	23	38	61
Illegitimate	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
							61

Live Birth Rate 12.0 per 1000 of estimated residential population.
 Still Births, 1 Female (legitimate), Total 1.
 Birth Rate of Stillborn Children 15.1 per 1000, total live and still births.
 Birth Rate of Stillborn Children .2 per 1000 estimated population.

DEATHS (All Ages)	Males.	Females	Total.
	25	26	51

Crude Death Rate, 10.0 per 1000.

Adjustable Death Rate by the comparability Factor of .96 — 9.6.

Puerperal Sepsis, Nil

Other Puerperal Causes, Nil.

Rate per 1000 Births, Nil.

Deaths of Children under 1 year	Males	Females	Total
Legitimate	1	1	2
Illegitimate	—	—	—
			2

Death Rate of Infants under 1 year of age per 1000 live deaths 32.7

.. Legitimate 32.7

.. Illegitimate Nil.

Number of Women dying in, or consequent of Child-birth ... Nil.

Death Rate from Tuberculosis, 1937.

Pulmonary2

Non-Pulmonary2

Death Rate from Cancer 1.2 per 1000.

Deaths from Measles (all ages) ... Nil.

.. Whooping Cough (all ages) ... Nil.

.. Diarrhoea (under 2 years) ... Nil.

From the above figures the outstanding features are :—

Our death rate for 1937 is 9.6 per 1000 as compared with 13.44 per 1000 in 1936.

There is a considerable decrease in the Birth Rate which this year is 12.0 per 1000 as against 16.3 in 1936 and 14.9 per 1000 for England and Wales.

There is a slight increase in the population for 1937 from 5017 to 5081.

I am very pleased to report this year a considerable decrease in the Infantile Mortality Rate viz , from 71.4 per 1000 live births to 32.7 per 1000 live births. Actually last year we had only two deaths of infants under one year as against 6 deaths in 1936, and our mortality rate of 32.7 per 1000 live births compares very favourably with that of England and Wales which is 58 per 1000 live births.

Our death rate is also down in 1937, being 10.0 per 1000 as compared with 14.0 in 1936, or, allowing for the " comparability factor " 9.6 per 1000. As compared with 12.4 per 1000 for England and Wales it gives the Urban District a very good recommendation as a healthy locality.

Under the auspices of the County Council an Ante-Natal Scheme for the care of expectant mothers is now working, which means that any expectant mother on the recommendation of the Maternity Nurse can have ante-natal medical care and treatment free of charge in necessitous cases. This, in my opinion, is a splendid principle and should do much to lower the Maternal Mortality Rate in the country.

During 1937 there were no noteworthy causes of sickness, nor had we any deaths from either Measles, Whooping Cough, Infantile Diarrhoea, or any of the Epidemic Diseases, which is an extremely satisfactory state of affairs.

The death rate from Cancer is 1.2 per 1,000 of the population and I think we as a district are doing our share in supporting the efforts for furthering the work in Cancer Research.

During 1937 there were no deaths in the village due to Child Birth nor any cases of Puerperal Sepsis.

I am still very pleased to be able to again state there have been no deaths in the Urban District due to Child-birth, and considering the Maternal Mortality of England and Wales is 3.11 per 1000 births I think this reflects great credit on all those people having charge of the Ante-Natal Welfare and the actual confinements in the area. It is also very creditable that during 1937 there were no cases of Puerperal Sepsis notified nor any cases of Ophthalmia Menatorum.

The chief causes of Deaths for 1937 are as follows :—

			M	F
Other Liver Disorders	...	...	...	1
Other Digestive Disorders	...	...	1	1
Acute and Chronic Nephritis	...	...	4	1
Congenital Debility and Premature Birth	...	...	1	...
Senility	...	...	1	1
Suicide	...	...	1	...
Other Violence	...	...	...	1
Other Defined Diseases	...	...	3	1
Diabetes	...	...	1	1
Cerebral Haemorrhage	...	...	1	3
Heart Disease	...	...	2	7
Other Circulatory Diseases	...	...	3	3
Bronchitis	...	...	1	...
Pneumonia	...	...	1	1
Influenza	...	...	1	1
Tuberculosis of Lungs	...	...	1	...
Other Forms of Tuberculosis	...	...	...	1
Cancer	...	...	3	3
			25	26

Total all causes 51

3.—NOTIFIABLE DISEASES DURING THE YEAR 1937.

Disease	No. of Cases	No. admitted to Hospital	Deaths
Scarlet Fever	16	10	—
Diphtheria	3	3	—
Para Typhoid	—	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	—	—	—
Pneumonia	2	—	—
Erysipelas	—	—	—
Chicken Pox	11	—	—
Influenzal Meningitis	—	—	—
Meningitis	—	—	—

During 1937 we had a few cases of Infectious Diseases, but I am glad to report we had no deaths from either Scarlet Fever, Diphtheria, Chicken Pox or Measles. Arrangements have now been made for procuring Serum for Prophylactic Immunisation against Diphtheria if required, and the doctors in the area have been notified to that effect.

Our rates for the number of cases of Scarlet Fever and Diphtheria notified per 1000 are respectively 3.2 and .6.

The cost of the Council for patients admitted to the Macclesfield Isolation Hospital was £205 17 3 for 1937.

There have been no cases of Ophthalmia Neonatorum during the year 1937.

TUBERCULOSIS.

Age Period	NEW CASES.				DEATHS.			
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	Males	Females	Males	Females	Males	Females	Males	Females
0
1
5
10	1	...	...	...	...
15
20	1	...	...	...	...
25
35	2	1	...	...	...	...	...	...
45	1	...	...	...	...	...
55
65
	2	1	1	2	...	...	...	...

During 1937 there were 11 specimens of Sputum sent for Bacteriological Examination to the County Laboratory, Chester: 10 have negative results and 1 was positive.

It has not been found necessary to take any action under the Public Health Prevention of Tuberculosis Regulation, 1928.

4.—SUMMARY OF NURSING ARRANGEMENTS.

HOSPITALS & OTHER INSTITUTIONS FOR THE DISTRICT.

(a) INFECTIOUS DISEASES.—For the accommodation of Infectious Disease Cases, we have an agreement with the Macclesfield Corporation to a retaining right of four beds in their Isolation Hospital which, so far, has proved adequate for our requirements, especially so since our incidence of Infectious Disease is so low and quite a number of our cases are treated at home, in fact during 1937, only 13 cases were referred to Hospital treatment.

We are in negotiations with Macclesfield Corporation which are now almost completed, for a retaining right on 7 beds in the new joint Hospital Scheme as against 4 under the old scheme. The 4 beds have always been adequate up to the present, but under our new arrangements it will be possible to admit and isolate several other diseases apart from Scarlet Fever and Diphtheria.

(b) SMALL-POX.—During 1937 there have been no cases of Small-Pox. We have a retaining right of two beds in the Macclesfield Small-Pox Hospital if required.

(c) TUBERCULOSIS.—These cases are dealt with :

- | | |
|---|---|
| (a) Domiciliary Treatment under care of own doctor. | |
| (b) Hospital | } Under care of Cheshire
County Tuberculosis Scheme. |
| (c) Sanatorium | |
| (d) Dispensary | |

(d) CHILD WELFARE.—There is an Infant Welfare Clinic held on alternate Thursdays under the supervision of the Cheshire County Council Health Authorities (Maternity & Child Welfare Department) supported by a Committee of local ladies. The attendance at the Clinic of the mothers is good and regular, and the scheme generally is proving very beneficial to the child life of the village.

(e) A further clinic for children up to 5 years of age to attend for periodic examination " Toddler's Clinic " once a quarter, has now been inaugurated and should be a great benefit for the more adult children until they become of school age when they automatically come under the routine examination by the School Medical Officer,

(f) VENEREAL DISEASE.—Our nearest centre for treatment of these diseases is Stockport, and is under the supervision of the Cheshire County Authorities. In my opinion I think, although we have very few cases of Venereal Disease, it would in some ways be better if we had a treatment centre a little nearer.

(g) AMBULANCE FACILITIES.—Cases of sickness or accident requiring removal to Hospital are conveyed by the Macclesfield Borough Ambulance or by private conveyance. Arrangements have now been settled with the Macclesfield Corporation for the use of the Borough Ambulance in necessitous cases, and from my experience this is proving very efficacious, and they are very quick in their response to any calls.

Infectious Disease cases are conveyed by the Macclesfield Fever Ambulance.

There are Male and Female contingents of the St John Ambulance Association in the District who are always willing to render first-aid and are of considerable help in a scattered industrial area such as Bollington.

(h) SCHOOL CHILDREN.—The routine medical examination of school children is carried out by the staff of the Health Department of the Cheshire County Council.

(i) Nurse Wilcock, our only resident Midwife, is doing excellent work in the district and during the year has attended most of the 61 births we had in 1937. From my previous remarks I think her work is to be very highly commended, as the very satisfactory returns given in the report show.

(j) HOME NURSING.—By Nurse Wilcock, "Queen's Nurse," who is doing excellent work amongst the sick. A car is provided for her use, which is a tremendous asset and very necessary in a scattered district like Bollington.

(k) WELFARE SCHEMES.—The Fine Cotton Spinners' Association, who own three large mills in the area, have now instituted Welfare Centres at their mills under the charge of two welfare workers. Rest Rooms, Recreation Rooms, and Recreation Grounds are now provided for their operatives, and the Scheme is of considerable benefit to their Employees, and one which is worthy of copy by other employers of labour.

(l) PATHOLOGICAL WORK.—Arrangements are now in force with the Laboratory of the Macclesfield Public Health Department and the Laboratory at the Parkside Hospital, for any Pathological work that may be required to be done by the Health Department. This arrangement is more satisfactory than our previous one since it is more expeditious and the postal delay is saved.

(m) During 1937 my Council have come to an arrangement with the Macclesfield Infirmary for the use of the Infirmary Mortuary for any cases requiring Post Mortem Examination.

(n) PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF.—A Part-time Medical Officer, John W. Chadwick, M.C.R.S. (Eng.), L.R.C.P. (Lon.), D.P.H. (Man.), and a part time Sanitary Inspector, Chas. A. Smith, Certified Royal Sanitary Institute, Certificated Sanitary Inspector (Man. Univ.).

SANITARY ADMINISTRATION.

During 1937, a survey of the sanitary conditions of the district was made by the County Medical Officer of Health and the County Sanitary Officer, along with myself and Mr. Smith, our Sanitary Inspector. He reported our conditions were good and well administered, the points requiring attention were under the consideration of my Council at the time and are being dealt with in due course.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE.—The Sewers in the District continue to work satisfactorily. The system of sewage disposal consists of sedimentation tanks, storm water tanks, percolating filters with revolving distributors and humus tanks. No complaints have been received in respect of effluent during 1937 from the Mersey and Irwell Rivers Board.

In all parts of the district we have now carried out the change over to a Water Carriage System with the exception of those areas where at present owing to a lack of proper water supply and sewerage arrangements conversion is impossible.

An electrical driven duplicate low level Sewage Pump has been installed at the Sewage Works during 1937.

CLOSET ACCOMMODATION.—

The total number of	Privy Closets in the district are	49
„	Privy Ashpits	40
„	Pail Closets	13
„	Dry Ashpits	49
„	Dust Bins	1295

SLAUGHTERHOUSES.—There are three Slaughterhouses in the District licensed by the Council ; they are all in good condition.

MEAT INSPECTION.—During the year 1937 the following Inspections have been made by the Medical Officer of Health and Sanitary Officer under the Public Health (Meat) Regulations, 1924.

Number of Animals notified for Slaughter ...	615	} 74.8 p c. Inspected
„ Inspected after Slaughter	460	

Whole Carcases of Meat Condemned as unfit for human consumption 4

Portions of Carcases Condemned for human consumption 11.

Offals Condemned : Liver 7, Lungs 16, Heads 11.

Under the Tuberculosis Order, 1925, which in this area is administered by the County Police 47 animals were notified for slaughter. Of these, 18 carcases were passed for human consumption, the rest being totally condemned.

SMOKE ABATEMENT.—Byelaws have been made under the Smoke Abatement Act, 1926, and will come into operation on the 1st of May, 1938.

DAIRIES AND MILK SUPPLY.—During 1937, 12 samples of milk were taken in the Urban District for cleanliness tests. Of these samples 10 or 83.33 per cent. were satisfactory which is a great improvement on our last year's figures and shows that a number of farmers are making a real attempt to provide clean milk and are to be congratulated on their effort.

Pasturised milk is on sale in the district.

During the year the farms in our area have been frequently inspected and though in most cases not fulfilling the ideal conditions, attempts to do so, are certainly being made, and on the whole the conditions of milk production are good. New floors and windows have been provided during 1937, at the following farms : Nab Farm, Moss Farm, Stakehouse End Farm, Oaklands Farm and Adshead Barn Farm.

HOUSE REFUSE.—This service is under the control of the Sanitary Inspector, and a weekly collection of Dust Bins is in operation throughout the District, and a weekly collection of refuse from shopkeepers maintained without extra charge.

The refuse is disposed of by Controlled Tipping, a system which has now been in operation for the past six years and giving very satisfactory results at a very reasonable cost.

The amount of refuse collected and disposed during the past year has been 1481 loads at a cost of £666, equal to 2/7.8d. per head of the population.

RIVERS AND STREAMS.—The condition of these remain much the same as last year. Such matters as waste from houses and trade effluent undoubtedly do still find their way into the River Dean. There has not, however, been any great complaint as to foul smell arising from it during any period of the year.

There are no obnoxious trades carried on in the village.

SCHOOLS.—There are five Elementary Schools in the district.

Notification of cases of Infection amongst the Scholars are sent by the principal teachers to the Medical Officer of Health who visits the School and the homes of the children, and takes what action he considers advisable.

WATER SUPPLY.—The Water Supply is obtained from three Works—Lowerhouse, Dane Bent and Millbrook—in the neighbouring township of Rainow some two or three miles away. The supply is constant.

1.—LOWERHOUSE. The water is obtained from these works from three Boreholes and adits driven in the Millstone Grit.

2 DANE BENT.—The water of these works is obtained from a boring 427 feet deep in the Millstone grit. When the supply from Lowerhouse fails during the periods of drought the water is raised from the borehole of these works (Dane Bent) by air lift, and pumped into the distribution Main by a force pump.

3 MILL BROOK—This consists of a borehole put down in Millstone grit, 18 inches in diameter and 262 feet deep.

The borehole is protected from the infiltration of surface water down to a depth of 105 feet by a steel lining.

The water is raised from the boreholes and delivered into the high level reservoir by pumping plant.

The whole of the water is Chlorinated at the Lowerhouse and Mill Brook Works

A new Pumping Station consisting of a 21 inch Borehole, Engine House and Electrically driven borehole pump has been put into operation during 1936.

A new 5 inch water main has been laid from Wellington Road, along Henshall Road to Flash Lane. This was necessary to give a satisfactory supply to the Parish of Prestbury.

A constant and plentiful supply of water has been available during the year.

During 1937 four samples of water were taken for Bacteriological Examination, of these three samples were taken before Chlorination and one after Chlorination. The sample taken after Chlorination was excellent. Of the three samples taken before Chlorination, two were good and one was doubtful.

6.—HOUSING.

During 1937, 31 houses, all suitable for working-class dwellings, were built by private enterprise. The demand for houses appears to be met from this source. Further, we are now finding vacant houses in the district, indicating that the supply of working-class dwellings is up to our reasonable requirements.

The following figures are for the year 1937 :—

1.—INSPECTION OF DWELLING-HOUSES DURING THE YEAR.

1 (a) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	81
(b) Number of Inspections made for the purpose	96
2 (a) Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head 1 above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925	56
(b) Number of Inspections made for the purpose	64

3	Number of dwelling-houses to be found in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation ..	Nil
4	Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation ...	22
2.—REMEDY OF DEFECTS WITHOUT SERVICE OF FORMAL NOTICE.		
	Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers	20
3. ACTION UNDER STATUTORY POWERS.		
A.—Proceedings under Section 9 of the Housing Act, 1936 :—		
1	Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs ...	22
2	Number of dwelling houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices :—	
	(a) By Owners	9
	(b) By Local Authority in default of owners ..	Nil
B. Proceedings under Public Health Acts :		
1	Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	59
2	Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices :—	
	(a) By Owners	59
	(b) By Local Authority in default of Owners	Nil
C.—Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936 :—		
1	Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made, undertaking under Sub-section 2 accepted ..	Nil
2	Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	Nil
D. Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936 :—		
1	Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made or undertaking given under Sub-section 19	Nil
2	Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit ..	Nil
4. HOUSING ACT, 1935—OVERCROWDING.		
(a)—(i)	Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year	6
	(ii) Number of families dwelling therein	6
	(iii) Number of persons dwelling therein	36
(b)	Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year	Nil
(c) (i)	Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year	2
	(ii) Number of persons concerned in such cases	16½
(d)	Particulars of any cases in which dwelling-houses have again become overcrowded after the Local Authority have taken steps for the abatement of overcrowding	Nil
(e)	Any other particulars with respect to overcrowding conditions upon which the Medical Officer of Health may consider it desirable to report	Nil

7. FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS, WORKPLACES AND HOMEWORK.

1. - INSPECTION OF FACTORIES, AND WORKSHOPS AND WORKPLACES

Premises	Inspections	No of Written Notices	Prosecutions
Factories (including Factory Laundries)	7	Nil	Nil
Workshops (including Work Laundries)	3	Nil	Nil
Workplaces (other than Outworkers' premises included in part 3 of this Report)	--	--	--
Total	10	Nil	Nil

2.—DEFECTS FOUND IN FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS AND WORKPLACES.

	Number of Defect		
Found	Remedied	Referred to H. M. Inspector.	No of Prosecutions.
Nuisance under the Public Health Acts		Nil.	

In conclusion, I should like to thank Mr. Smith, the Sanitary Inspector, who is always willing to render any assistance, and carry out any instructions in connection with the health of the township

I have the honour to be, Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

JOHN W. CHADWICK,

Medical Officer of Health.

Urban District of Bollington.

CHESHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL.

GENERAL ORDER OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT BOARD (MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH AND INSPECTOR OF NUISANCES) DECEMBER 13th, 1910.

TABULAR STATEMENT OF INSPECTOR OF NUISANCES FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31st, 1937.

A.		B.		C.			
No. and Nature of Inspections made.	Number	No. of Notices served		Result of Service of Notices			
		Statutory	Informal	Notices complied with.	Remaining in hand.	Prosecutions	
						Instituted	Pending
1 Dwelling Houses (General Inspections)	64	22	4	13	13		
2 Cellar Dwellings...	...						
3 Back-to-Back Houses ...	...					
4 Tents, Vans, Sheds, &c....	...						
5 Courts, Yards, Passages...	10						
6 Privy-Middens, Earth or Pail Closets...	15						
7 Cesspools ...	2						
8 House Drainage ...	56		10	10			
9 Ditches, Watercourses, &c ...	...					
10 Offensive Accumulations ...	...					
11 (The keeping of Animals P.H.A., 1875 S 91 (3) ...)	...						
12 Offensive Trades...	...						
13 a—Slaughterhouses—Public ...	...					
—Private ...	208						
b—Other Places where food is produced or sold ..	3						
14 Piggeries ...	...					
15 a—Dairies ...	...					
b—Cowsheds ...	75						
c—Milkshops ...	...					
16 a—Factories ...	9						
b—Workshops ...	1						
c—Workplaces ...	...					
d—Outworkers' Premises ...	...					
17 Bakehouses—Overground ...	5						
—Underground ...	...					
18 Common Lodging Houses ...	...					
19 Houses let in Lodgings ...	...					
20 Smoke Observations ...	15						
21 Canal Boats ...	...					
22 Infectious Disease Inquiries & Revisits	25						
23 Miscellaneous ...	65						
TOTALS ...	553	22	14	23	13		

CHAS. A. SMITH.

